

SAGAPONACK COMMON SCHOOL SHARED DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE (SDMC)

SDMC Meeting October 8, 2013, at 2:45 PM, at the Schoolhouse.

MINUTES

The following were present at the meeting:

Alan Van Cott (Superintendent and Facilitator)	Barbara Albright (Community)
Cathy Hatgistavrou (Board)	Patrick Guarino (Community)
Ellen Wilford (Custodian)	Lisa Arrigotti (Teacher)
Terry Scammell (Teacher)	Deborah Quimby (Parent Rep)
Matthew Wilson (Alt Parent Rep and Notetaker)	Denise Walsh (Alt Parent Rep)
Karin Bodington (Parent)	

Apologies: Darienne Sutton, Summer Louchheim, Joseph DeBellis, Corina Goulden, Marion Wilson (other parents called emailed with their regrets)

A parent meeting held before the SDMC elected Deborah Quimby as parent representative and two alternate parent representatives, Denise Walsh and Matthew Wilson, who introduced themselves to the committee.

I. A quorum being present the minutes of the SDMC of 18 Sept 2013 were approved, noting that a quorum had not been present at that meeting without the presence of an elected parent rep.

II. Cathy Hatgistavrou for the board updated the SDMC on regular police attendance outside the school during recess, PE, arrival and dismissal over the next few weeks. Patrick Guarino suggested that the Board consider installing close circuit camera(s).

Cathy Hatgistavrou reminded the SDMC of the existence of the district Sagaponack Parent's Committee (SPC). It was agreed that the Superintendent would provide the parent's contact list to the SPC so notices could be sent by Cathy to all parents of children at the school for future meetings.

Cathy Hatgistavrou mentioned parents might like to create sweat shirts for fundraising as had been done in the past. Parents could contact her for further info.

III. Matthew Wilson volunteered and was elected Note Taker to the SDMC.

A proposal for the selection of Grade Reps was tabled in light of the District approved SD plan. It was stressed that all parents were able to attend and participate in the SDM (and requested to do so if possible) and that if parents were unable to attend, parent rep Deborah Quimby (or alternates) could carry or represent parent views.

Apologies were made for the lack of childcare for the SDMC and the last minute notice for this - it was asked if the board could ensure childcare was made available to afternoon SDMC's so that all parents who wanted to could attend. Alan Van Cott added that while assurances to provide child care could not be provided based upon the availability of student child care providers, efforts would be made to secure a second high school student who could use community service hours. There was some discussion about the possibility of early evening SDMC meetings with childcare at the Hamptons Library using the children's librarian. This could be a children's

social event such as pizza evening. Patrick Guarino and Debbie Quimby volunteered to look into this after Lisa Arrigotti said teachers foresaw no problem with a slightly earlier evening SDMC meeting.

#### IV/V DISTRICT AND SDMC GOALS

Superintendent, Alan Van Cott presented the District's 2013/2014 Goals previously circulated to all parents. These included

- Adoption of ELA modules for Grades 3 & 4
- Research into forthcoming math modules for Grades 1 to 4
- New technology plan for NYSED approval to be based around the new Chrome laptops as well as other hardware and software applications.
- Forthcoming Social Studies Common Core Curriculum (CCC) adjustments.
- The District was coordinating with East Moriches Elementary School in looking at possible CCC plans.
- District goal to consider the feasibility of different grade configurations for future years including adding a K grade and removing grade 4.
- District goal to study feasibility of plan to increase student numbers by attracting more district children

Some discussion followed about using events (concerts/movie evenings) and summer fund raising to publicize the school and attract district parents of Grade 1 to 4 children who otherwise might educate their children privately. Cathy Hatgistavrou said the number of such children was small.

- There was some discussion concerning recent changes to curriculum, texts, and timetable which had been made without SDMC involvement. Lisa Arrigotti added that parents were, in fact, part of the review process for the GO Math text and math curriculum. Superintendent/teachers would in due course seek the participation of parents and SDMC in considering future changes prior to implementation as the current SDMC plan requires. Cathy Hatgistavrou said further preparation was needed first.

#### VI SCHOOL LUNCHESES

Deborah Quimby outlined proposal for a volunteer parent rotation to provide school lunches once a week as previous years. Lisa Arrigotti said Tuesdays were best. Deborah Quimby would contact parents.

Some discussion followed concerning school lunches. Lisa Arrigotti confirmed children had 30 minutes for lunch before going outside for recess. Some discussion followed concerning McDonald's on school trips: Matthew Wilson commented that experience last year suggested that a majority of children at the school do not eat McDonald's and that several parents of children at the school had stated a preference that the school not endorse McDonalds. Lisa Arrigotti provided important information regarding the school stopping at a McDonald's for lunch when on school trips. Students may bring their lunch and/or purchase a milk, salad, etc. There is more to this activity than food as students learn to place an order, pay for it themselves, eat in a public setting, etc. Lisa Arrigotti added that the teachers would consider parent proposed alternatives for their forthcoming Port Jefferson trip. These restaurants would need to provide a fast service at \$5 to \$10 per head and with an opportunity for children to line up, practice good table manners and make change.

**NOVEMBER MEETING: POTLUCK DINNER:** The November 21st SDMC meeting will feature a potluck dinner. SDMC attendees are encouraged to bring a "favorite dish" to share. Please note the special start time of **6:30 PM** for this event. The SDMC meeting will follow.